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A FINAL WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT

To the Music Supervisors of America:

This year is the most vital time in the history of our conference. The possibilities of the usefulness of music have been so deeply impressed upon the American people by the needs of the army, that a new era seems to be dawning. The greatly enlarged vision we have acquired, brings much greater responsibility to every supervisor who looks upon his work as a part of the educational machinery. And not only does this new development lend us encouragement and enthusiasm, but it also brings a new responsibility. We are better enabled to measure the results of our work and to discover in what respects we need to reconstruct our ideals and to readjust our methods.

The exigencies of the times have led some to think that they should not afford the expense of attending the conference. This is exactly the time when you should sacrifice to go, because now of all times is the time when we should be planning our work both to enable us to do our part in winning the war and to be ready for the reconstruction after it is over.

These are days when speakers think at white heat. The men and women on our program are people who are doing things in music in a way they have never been done before. The war has cleared the atmosphere in many ways that enable us to see things as they are. As great occasions produce great leaders and great issues, so we expect this meeting to give us a great vision and a great inspiration. Our chorus singing in previous years has been one of the greatest inspirational features of our meeting. How much greater will it be this year when all hearts through sacrifice and patriotism throb in harmony with the Infinite.

The time seems ripe for something great in music education. By being present at Evansville and "doing your bit" you may be the last one needed to put music "over the top." Will you do it?

C. H. Miller, President, Rochester, N. Y.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR TREASURER

Fellow Supervisors:

First let me ask every supervisor who receives the Journal and who is not a member of the National Conference why he is not a member. Now be fair and square. Here is an organization spending time, energy and money in behalf of your profession and *you*—should you not lend your help by affiliating with us?

Now a word to those who have at one time or other become members but who have allowed their membership to lapse through non-payment of dues. Perhaps you have enjoyed the meetings some year and have decided that you can get all that is to be had, when you do not attend the meetings, from a copy of the book of proceedings, so instead of renewing your membership you simply buy a book thereby saving fifty cents. Or perhaps you really forget and neglect to pay dues or buy a copy of the

book. If all were to act thus we could not afford to publish a book. Let us feel that we want to do something unselfish in this and decide to keep our names on the list of members year in and year out. Our membership is our strength in the eyes of the public so every supervisor who really has the cause of "School Music" in America at heart should be a member of the Music Supervisors' National Conference. Now fill in the blank on page seventeen and send to me with the correct enclosure.

James McIlroy, Jr., Mt. Oliver Station, Pittsburgh, Pa.

KEEP ALIVE BY STUDYING

Are you carrying on some investigating, some study of striking aspects of your work? It is one way of maintaining interest and insuring growth. Sometimes you can co-operate in a larger investigation. Write, for instance, to Prof. Carl E. Seashore, Iowa City, Iowa, your ideas on two questions he is investigating at present. 1. *What shall we do in the first eight grades of the public schools to classify children for the exercises in singing on the basis of ability in singing rather than on the basis of class in the regular grade?* 2. *What are some of the means by which we can guarantee that singing in the grades shall be taught by teachers who have natural ability in singing?*

THE WESTERN MUSIC SUPERVISORS' CONFERENCE

Altho we have not received details we learn that some of our western members have formed a sectional conference similar to that of our Eastern brothers. May we offer to them the same warm greeting that we printed in our January Journal! When we get a full report we shall have more to say.

BACK NUMBERS OF THE JOURNAL

Altho there have been sufficient requests for back numbers to exhaust some of our issues we can still supply the following: November, 1914; November, 1915; January, 1915; September, 1916; November, 1916; March, 1917; November, 1917; January, 1918. If you want any of them send the Editor a self-addressed envelope bearing as many penny stamps as you desire copies.

THE GROWING IMPORTANCE OF SCHOOL MUSIC

It is gratifying to note the willingness of publishers to consider more and more the needs of the music supervisors. The Willis Music Company in the Music Supervisors' Guide exemplify this spirit, for they have gone thru their entire list of music and arranged it for announcement in this booklet from the point of view of what use the supervisor can make of it. Other publishers would make their material much more accessible if they were to follow a similar plan in their catalogs.